12-9-82

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

First the bad news-I didn't get to the Ford library again. I had told my wife last week that I was going to go this past Monday, and she picked a fight Sunday night and took off, leaving the kids with me. She came back Monday afternoon, and its not been pleasant. I hate to air this problem like this, but I feel bad about saying twice about getting back to the library and not being able to because of my wifes emotional instability. I know there are too many people who express an interest in the assassination and are phonies, but I am not one, and thats why I am explaining why I couldn't make it. My wife doesn't have anything against my research, as far as I can understand, but does things to mess up things I have an interest in. I still am going to go back, but I will not advertise my plans ahead of time next time.

Now the good(?) news-I met Dr. Chapman on Tuesday. He was working on a house he just bought and I visited him for about an hour. He has agreed to see me again, but as a Dr. and new landlord I'll have to fit it in his schedule. Once he got started he kept going, and I was only able to bring up the wounds just before he was leaving, and did not even get to the head wound. He said he talked to Davis, the owner of the gun range who saw LHO there the Sunday before the shooting. Davis told him he saw a man in a red parka pass a rifle over a low fence to LHO. I asked if Davis described the man, Chapman said he didn't. I was curious if the description might match Mike Paine or Wesly Frazier, or De M. Chapman said Davis told him the man stayed with LHO for a while. He also (Chapman) talked to Dr. Wood(a dentist he said) about LHO shooting at his target. Apparently Wood remains convinced it was LHO. He also talked to Woods son, who said he asked LHO if his rifle was a Mannlicher-Carcano, and LHO replied "yes sir". Chapman didn't say when he was in Dallas but he was mentioned in an article in a 1976 American Opinion magazine, so I presume he was there before then. He gave me a reprint of the article. If you like I'll Xerox it for you if you don't have it. Anyway, Chapman said he talked to Herndon, the man who administerd the lie detector test to Ruby, and Herndon told him privately that the way the test was administered was a violation of all procedure in giving that kind of test, but as Herndon said "you have to do it the way the boss says".

Dr. Chapman got sidetracked on other intelligence operations in the 50's and 60's, some of which escaped me, things like the Bander-Schinsky(phonetic spelling)affair etc. He is of the opinion that the assassination was an intelligence operation. He did mention about one well known phase that was a new way of looking at it for me. He said the bus LHO got on would've taken him by Ruby's apartment. His former landlady saw him and most likely he saw her. Knowing he was seen he got right off, but got a transfer after getting off. Chapman theorizes he did this so that if the landlady began talking to police, they would waste time combing all the busses in the city. Interesting?

I had a list of questions I wanted to ask, including whether he gave any testimony, but he was almost a nonstop talker, and this was the first time I ever interviewed any one like this. With a little experience I'll get better at it. Some of the things we discussed were rather commonplace, like whether Hoover was involved, Eddowes' foolish theory, etc. He did say he metGen. Walker and "replayed" the shot at him. He sat Walker down at the spot he was then, and figured out angles. He figured the shot missed the Gen, by only an inch, rather than the 3 inches the General estimated. He said the bullet strusk the window pane at the bottom causing the bullet to deflect. He also said he has a Carcano with an identical scope, and with only 2 allen like LHO's screws mounting it instead of 4. the scope will never be accurate.

Thats basically the things we talked about this time. If he will be working on that house often(and it needs a lot of work) I should be able to see him again in a much shorter time next time.

I apologize again for not getting to the library. I will make it there, though. Did you hear about the crew of the spyplane the Russians were holding at the time Powers was shot down? I saw a short blurb on the news Saturday, said this information was just released from the Senate hearings that day. Announcer said the fate of the crewmwn was STILL classified. Interesting?

Merry Christmas and happy new year! Lets hope this year reveals more of the truth as other years have. Continued best wishes and a toast to a good year for you.

Sincerely,

Jan

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